

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6031

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1374

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS, PINT, CH

SUBJECT: KIANGSU PROVINCIAL LEADERS UNDER POSTER ATTACK IN NANKING

REF: PEKING 1317

1. SUMMARY: UK EMBOFF VISITING NANKING JULY 13-14 REPORTS THAT KIANGSU PROVINCIAL RC CHAIRMAN PENG CHUNG, VICE CHAIRMAN HSU CHIA-TUN, AND OTHERWISE UNIDENTIFIED RC MEMBER CHING TI (STC: 0064/1912) ARE TARGETS OF MASSIVE AND WELL-ORGANIZED POSTER CAMPAIGN ACCUSING THEM OF INSTIGATING COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT IN NANKING ON APRIL 5, AND OF BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR KIANGSU PROVINCE'S PRESENT "ADVERSE CURRENT." END SUMMARY.

2. UK EMBOFF SAW LARGE NUMBERS OF FRESH, NEATLY ARRAYED POSTERS IN NANKING'S TWO MAIN SQUARES, ALL ATTACKING PENG, HSU AND CHING, BUT WAS UNABLE TO PERSUADE DRIVER TO STOP AND ALLOW HIM TO READ DETAILED ACCUSATIONS. ON SEVERAL STREETS HE OBSERVED RECENTLY PAINTED WALL SLOGANS, LARGEST OF WHICH, ON CHUNGSHAN ROAD, STRETCHED FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YARDS AND STATED: "THE BEHIND-THE-SCENES INSTIGATORS OF NANKING'S COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT, AND OF KIANGSU'S ADVERSE CURRENT ARE THE UNREPENTANT CAPITALIST ROADERS IN THE PROVINCIAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE PENG CHUNG, HSU CHIA-TUN AND CHING TI." THE SLOGAN WAS DATED JUNE 28-29.

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3. UK EMBOFF'S GUIDE STATED THAT THE "STRUGGLE" AGAINST THESE INDIVIDUALS HAD BEEN IN PROGRESS SINCE JUNE AND OPINED THAT IT WOULD LAST FOR SOME TIME. GUIDE SEEMED VERY RELAXED ABOUT THE ATTACKS ON PROVINCIAL LEADERS AND EVEN ASSISTED IN NOTING DOWN NAMES AND OTHER DETAILS IN THE WALL SLOGANS.

4. UK EMBOFF NOTICED NO SIGNS OF INCREASED SECURITY MEASURES OR TENSION AMONG NANKING POPULACE. GIVEN THE ORGANIZATION AND OPENNESS OF THE CAMPAIGN, HE GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT WHOEVER WAS BEHIND THE ATTACKS ON PENG AND COMPANY HAD CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL CLOUT.

5. TWO BRITISH TEACHERS EMPLOYED AT NANKING UNIVERSITY CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT ON APRIL 5 AN INCIDENT SIMILAR TO THAT AT TIEN AN MEN OCCURRED IN NANKING'S MAIN SQUARE, WHERE THOUSANDS ASSEMBLED TO READ POSTERS EULOGIZING CHOU EN-LAI. WHILE THE TEACHERS HAD WITNESSED NO ACTS OF VIOLENCE, THE PHOTOGRAPHS THEY TOOK OF POSTERS AND CROWDS WERE NOT RETURNED BY THE DEVELOPERS, AND THEY WERE STERNLY LECTURED BY NANKING UNIVERSITY CADRES FOR TRYING TO RECORD THE "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY INCIDENT."

6. THE BRITISH TEACHERS ALSO TOLD EMBOFF THAT NO MEMORIAL CEREMONIES WERE HELD IN NANKING FOR CHU TEH DURING THE MOURNING PERIOD JULY 7-11, AND NO COMMEMORATIVE DISPLAYS HAD BEEN PUT UP SINCE HIS DEATH. IN FACT, ALMOST AS IF TO DRAW ATTENTION FROM CHU, A MASS RALLY WAS STAGED AT NANKING UNIVERSITY JULY 10 TO HONOR A RECENT GRADUATE KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT SHORTLY AFTER RUSTICATION TO TIBET.

7. FOR HONG KONG: USLO CAN FIND NO REFERENCES ON CHING TI IN ITS FILES. PLEASE CHECK YOUR FILES FOR BIO DATA AND ADVISE.
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Message Attributes

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